

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claims 82, 97 and 112 have been amended, and no claims have been cancelled or added. Accordingly, claims **1-23, 25-62, 64-82, 85-99, 101-103** and **105-112** are presently pending, and favorable reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested. Claims **1, 4, 14, 31, 35, 40, 43, 53, 70, 74, 80-82, 85, 89, 95-98, 102** and **107-112** are the independent claims.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the withdrawal of all previous grounds of rejection and objection.

35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner has expressed the view that claims 82, 97 and 112 are directed to non-statutory subject-matter, because there is no embodiment on a tangible computer-readable medium.

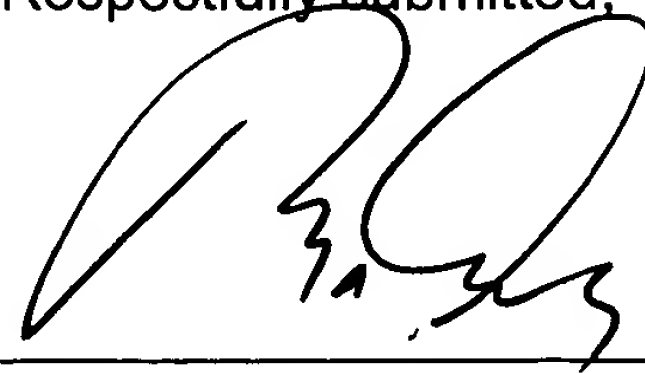
By the present amendment, claims 82, 97 and 112 have been amended to recite a signal “embodied in a computer-readable medium”, as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the rejection of these claims is overcome.

It is the Applicant’s position that this amendment is not for any substantial reason related to patentability. In this regard, Applicant respectfully notes that the statutory nature of a signal embodied in a propagation medium is supported by M.P.E.P. § 2106.IV.B.1.(c), and a number of U.S. patents have issued with claims directed to such subject-matter, including claims directed to a “signal embodied in a propagation medium” and a “signal embodied in a transmission medium”. In any event, this point is now moot in view of the present amendments to claims 82, 97 and 112.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests that a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. A. Dowell', is written over a horizontal line.

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